

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7, as amended, remain herein. Claims 2 and 5 are cancelled. Claims 8 and 9 have been added.

1. Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7 have been amended to moot the rejection.

2. Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Woodland U.S. Patent 4,931,026. Woodland discloses a jet propeller with exhaust exits in a front portion of the propeller. Woodland fails to disclose a hub, fixed with respect to an exhaust channel, and having at least one opening for reducing loss in flow rate of exhaust gases. The Office Action cites shaft 11, housing 16, shell 22, and bearings 26 as being a “hub.” However, none of shaft 11, housing 16, shell 22, nor bearings 26 includes at least one opening for reducing loss in flow rate of exhaust gases. Housing 16 does comprise ventilation holes 34, but they are not for reducing flow rate of exhaust gases, but for providing gas to the propeller blades for reducing cavitation. Even if housing 16 was considered a “hub”, Woodland further fails to disclose a ring encircling the hub. Woodland discloses blades affixed to rings, but none of these encircles housing 16. Woodland further fails to disclose blades fixed to a ring, for dispersing exhaust gases. None of the blades in Woodland are for dispersing exhaust gases; rather they are for propelling a vehicle. Nor is there any evidence in Woodland that the blades would disperse exhaust gases.

Regarding claim 4, Woodland fails to disclose a profiled element for deflecting gases towards said blades, and the Office Action fails to cite any element in Woodland that matches this element. Nothing in Woodland is used to deflect exhaust gases to the blades 28, 27, 25.

Regarding claim 7, Woodland fails to disclose a ring according to claim 1 that is integral with the hub.

Since Woodland fails to disclose every element of applicants' claims 1, 4 and 7, Woodland is an inadequate basis for rejection of any of claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

3. Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Vallance U.S. Patent 4,352,638. Vallance discloses a supercharger with various stages. Vallance fails to disclose any dilution or dispersion device, or any elements that would dilute or disperse exhaust gases, as recited in applicants' claim 1. The Office Action cites rotor 38 as a dilution and dispersion device, but the rotor has no such capability. Vallance further fails to disclose a hub, fixed with respect to an exhaust channel, and having at least one opening for reducing loss in flow rate of exhaust gases, a ring encircling the hub, and blades fixed to the ring, for dispersing exhaust gases, as recited in applicants' claim 1. Although Vallance does disclose a hub 122, it does not have holes in the hub for passing exhaust gases, and blades attached to the hub for dispersing exhaust gases. The gases passing through the hub 122 are completely contained within the turbocharger, not dispersed. And there are no holes in the hub for dispersing exhaust gases.

Regarding claim 4, Vallance further fails to disclose a profiled element for deflecting gases towards the blades.

Since Vallance fails to disclose every element of claims 1 and 4, Vallance is an inadequate basis for rejection of any of claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Accordingly, all claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7-9 are now fully in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. The PTO is hereby authorized to charge/credit any fee deficiencies or overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-4293. If further amendments would place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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